

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	204	Press ~~Mis~~
Dated	17. 5-	1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 11th to 17th May 1859.*

No. 34. Read the following letter from Colonel F. A. REID, Quarter Master General of the Army; to the Acting Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort Saint George, 3rd May 1859, No. 200.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief, I do myself the honor to request, you will be so good as to bring to the Notice of Government, that on the recent visit of the "Coromandel," to the Straits her Commander Mr. Forrester, who appears to be unconnected with the Indian Navy, behaved with much want of courtesy, to say the least of it, to Colonel Babington Commanding at Penang. Colonel Babington caused his Staff Officer to address a letter to Mr. Forrester of which the annexed is a copy. Mr. Forrester next day sent the letter by the hands of the Purser of the Ship, to Colonel Babington's residence, the Purser having it in charge to inform Colonel Babington (as that Officer understood him) that it was not one that Mr. Forrester could receive, and that the latter Gentleman expected he, Colonel Babington, would consent to its being cancelled or withdrawn, on the ground, that he could receive no instructions or communications from any authority, but the Madras Government directly. It would appear, that the part of the letter more particularly objected to by Mr. Forrester was, that, in which he was referred to the Officer Commanding Straits for further instructions.

2. His Excellency, however, sees nothing objectionable in the letter. The "Coromandel," had Troops on board, and Colonel Babington's letter in no way interferes with any orders, he may have received regarding them.

3. Under all the circumstances, Sir P. Grant is of opinion, that Officers Commanding Ships as Transports, should be made clearly to understand, that they must place themselves in communication with the Chief Military Authority at all Ports, at which, they may touch, and cordially co-operate with them, in carrying out the Public Service with good will and alacrity.

4. The copy of the letter to Mr. Forrester is attached, that Government may be aware of its style and tenor.

From Lieutenant H. J. HARDING, Station Staff Officer; to the Commander, Government Troop Ship Steamer "Coromandel," dated Penang, 4th April 1859, No. 104.

I have the honor to inform you, that the Officer Commanding Penang has no Troops or Stores to embark on the "Coromandel," for Malacca or Singapore from Penang now, but that (as you have Troops on board for Malacca and Singapore) you should proceed to those Stations as soon as possible, landing the Detachment Native Artillery you already have on board, for that* destination at Malacca (under Captain

* *Thus in original.*

Cameron of Artillery, whom you will be pleased to receive on board, with his family) and proceeding to Singapore at once with the Troops you have on board, for the 14th Regiment Native Infantry at Singapore; there to receive instructions from the Officer Commanding in the Straits.

Referred to the Marine Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
5th May 1859.

(Signed) H. MARSHALL, Colonel,
Ag. Secy. to Government.

No. 35.

ORDER THEREON, 17th May 1859, No. 204.

Ordered that the above letter and its annexure be communicated to all Officers Commanding Ships as Transports in the Service of Government, who will conform to the directions of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief by placing themselves in communication with the Chief Military Authorities at all Ports at which they may touch, and cordially co-operating with them in carrying on the Public Service with good will and alacrity.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 204

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& its annexure be communi-
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Fort St George,
17th May 1859.

The Commanders of the Sal-
house & Coromandel S.N.
Superintendent of Marine
for communication to the
Commander of the Australian
& Captains of all Transports.

Dispd 21st